Welcome to Landings . . . A monthly newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro A

If you don't have enough room in your driveway, please park on the EVEN-NUMBERED side of the street.

Due to the forecasted heavy snow storm this weekend, please park your vehicle(s) in your driveway so that the snowplows can clear the whole street.

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Town of Upper Marlboro 14211 School Lane Upper Marlboro, MD 20772 www.uppermarlboromd.gov

OR VISIT US ONLINE AT:

Contact Town Hall at:
(office) 301-627-6905
(fax) 301-627-2080
(e-mail) info@uppermarlboromd.gov

Monday-Friday: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

#### THE TOWN HALL IS OPEN WEEKDAYS

Board of Town Commissioners
Steve Sonnett, President
Joe Hourclé, Jim Storey



Town Hall Upper Maryland



# Recycle!

# Keep Your Taxes Low– by Pitching In!

Vou need to pitch your recyclables into your blue recycle bin for Thursday pick up. Ever time you put recyclables in the regular trash you are paying twice to dispose of your recyclables. The Town has a fixed price long-term contract with the county to pick up recyclables. The annual cost is \$12,586. Whether one pound or 20 tons are picked upthe price is the same. On the other hand, the Town (you) pay \$54 per ton for regular Monday trash. In other words, you pay twice when you throw recyclables into the regular trash.

Let's pull together and see if we can save ourselves some money and help the environment too. Last month (January, 2010) the Town paid for **18.48 tons** of Monday regular trash. In February of last year (2009) we paid for **17.70 tons**. Let's see how much we can reduce the tonnage. Double check the list to the right and see if you are recycling everything you can. If you are not recycling, make it a New Years resolution to start. If you have any questions, please give us a call at Town Hall: 301-627-6905 ext 3.



his is a combined January and February issue of the Landings. A combination of circumstances, including the town elections and the local post office no longer accepting bulk mail, caused us to miss an issue. We are investigating the best way to get print editions of the Landings to you however, you can always read the Landings on the Town's website. The next Town Meeting is Tuesday, February 9th, 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall.

#### 2010 Town Election Results

The following is the total of votes cast on Jan. 4, 2010 to elect 3 individuals to serve as the Board of Town Commissioners for the 2010–2012 term of office.

Stephen F. Sonnett	
Joseph A. Hourclé34	
James Storey32	
Helen Ford (write–in)3	
Board of Supervisors of Elections:  Yvonne Tucker/Chair, John McCauley, Allison Taylor  Town Clerk: M. David Williams	

The new commissioners were sworn in at the Clerk's office on January 15, Stephen Sonnett was selected by the new commissioners to continue as President and Commissioner Jim Storey has taken over the Treasurer's position.

#### Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Work Begins Early

The Town is in good financial shape and will be able to invest in the Town in FY2011. However, several things we know for sure about developing the FY 2011 budget is that expenses are going up and there is increased uncertainty in predicting expenses and revenue. The uncertainty is increased by the state of the economy and the budget woes of the federal, state and county governments.

As required by the Charter the President's proposed budget will be presented at the March Town Meeting. It will propose investing the FY2009 surplus in repairs, improvements and equipment purchases. Additional discussion of the budget will be held at the April Town Meeting with the first reading at the May Town Meeting. Final passage of the Budget will happen at the June Town Meeting.

#### **Police Radio Grant Received**

Based on a grant from the Federal government to the State, the town have received a \$22,776 sub-grant to cover the purchase price of six hand held digital police radios. These radios are required to communicate with the new area wide communication system that connects all public safety units. The Town will be budgeting for the purchase of in car radios in FY2011 for which grants were not available.

#### **County to Transfer Surplus Property to Town**

We have received a letter from the County stating they are in the process of transferring, for no consideration, Parcel 200 an approximately 76' by 200' foot piece of property, which is located across Old Crain Highway slightly to

### **UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER**

**TOWN MEETING:** Tuesday, February 9, 7:30 p.m., at Town Hall. The meeting is open to the public

PRESIDENT'S DAY: Monday, Feb. 15th. Offices will be closed and will reopen Tuesday, Feb. 16th at 9 a.m.

WORK SESSION: Tuesday, February 23, 9:00 a.m., at Town Hall. The meeting is open to the public.

east and south of Town Hall. The Neighbor Design Center, a non-profit organization, that provides design services at no cost is developing some concepts to use the property as a pocket park/open space/nature area. It appears that this land would not support a community garden. More to come on this.

#### Ordinance Restricting On-Street Parking During Snow Events to be Introduced at Town Meeting

Recent snow storms have made it clear that on street parking in the residential areas hinders efficient snow removal operations. A proposed ordinance will be introduced at the February Town Meeting that would require all residents that have a driveways to park in their drive when snow fall is predicted. In the event that is not possible due to lack of space in driveway, vehicles will be required to park on only one side of the street.

#### Parking and Historic Studies Progressing

The County's Planning Department is working on two studies of the Town. Hopefully, the parking study will define and evaluate the current parking situation and form the basis and recommend practical improvements. Of great interest is any recommendations for increased usage for our under utilized Church Street parking lot. More information should be available during the February Town

We have had several meetings with the County's historical planning section and their consultant. The focus of the study is to evaluate the western residential section of the Town using the National Historical District standards. The report is expected sometime this Spring. Once the report is received there will be one or more Town meetings, especially with the residents in the study area to decide what if any action should be taken.

#### \$5,000 Energy Grant to be Received by the Town

The State has received a grant from the Federal Government to be used for energy reduction projects. In turn, the State is sub-granting to local governments, based on population, with a minimum of \$5,000. The current thinking is to use this money to reduce energy consumption at either Town Hall or the Public works facility. The details of the sub-grant are still being worked out.

# POLICE REPORT / DEC. 2009

Town Citations: 137 State Citations: 37

#### In-Town Incidents:

- 2 Warrant Service
- 2 Return Missing
- 1 Property Damage
- 3 Accident Reports
- 2 Vehicle Impound
- 1 Theft

## Out-of-Town Incidents:

- 2 Theft from Vehicle 3 Theft
- 1 Breaking & Entering

# POLICE REPORT / JAN. 2010

Town Citations: 112 State Citations: 42

#### In-Town Incidents:

- 1 Homicide
- 1 Vandalism
- 1 Theft from Auto
- Threat
- 2 Warrant Service
- 8 Vehicle Impound

#### Out-of-Town Incidents:

- 1 Shooting & Robbery
- 1 Recovered Vehicle
- 3 Breaking & Entering
- 2 Stolen Vehicle
- 3 Theft from Vehicle
- 1 Theft

All in-Town incidents were in the downtown area and not in the residential areas.